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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/725,198	12/01/2003	Paul Y. Moreton	02-40068-US-CON (932702.2)	9830
7590 REED SMITH LLP 2500 One Liberty Place 1650 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19103-7301			EXAMINER TOMASZEWSKI, MICHAEL	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3626	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/03/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/725,198

Applicant(s)

MORETON ET AL.

Examiner

Mike Tomaszewski

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 January 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 22-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 22-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Notice To Applicant

1. This communication is in response to the amendment filed on 1/8/07. Claims 1-21 have been cancelled and claims 22, 30 and 38. Claims 22-41 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 22-23, 25-26, 29-30, 35, and 38-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Ballantyne et al.* (5,867,821; hereinafter *Ballantyne*), in view of *Evans* (5,924,074; hereinafter *Evans*), and in view of *Lavin et al.* (5,772,585; *Lavin*).

- (A) As per currently amended claim 1, *Ballantyne* discloses a personal assistant system, comprising:

- (1) a personal assistant (*Ballantyne*: abstract; col. 1, line 1-col. 2, line 63; Fig. 1-12B);
- (2) an electronic physician data module for collecting, storing, processing, and referencing information, the electronic physician data module being in said personal assistant (*Ballantyne*: abstract; col. 1, line 1-col. 2, line 63; Fig. 1-12B);
- (3) a sound recording device integral with said personal assistant (*Ballantyne*: abstract; col. 1, line 1-col. 2, line 63; Fig. 1-12B); and
- (4) a dictation module for electronically storing recorded voice from said sound recording device as a voice file, the automated dictation module being adapted to associate said voice file with said information (*Ballantyne*: abstract; col. 1, line 1-col. 2, line 63; Fig. 1-12B).

Ballantyne, however, fails to expressly disclose a personal assistant system, comprising:

- (5) an automated data collection module for inputting a patient identifier and relating said identifier with said information, the automated data collection module being in said personal assistant; and
- (6) a voice to text module for translating said voice file into a text file.

Nevertheless, this feature is old and well known in the art, as evidenced by *Evans*. In particular, *Evans* discloses a personal assistant system, comprising:

- (5) an automated data collection module for inputting a patient identifier and relating said identifier with said information, the automated data collection module being in said personal assistant (*Evans*: abstract; col. 1, line 1-col. 3, line 43; Fig. 1-24); and
- (6) a voice to text module for translating said voice file into a text file (*Lavin*: col. 1, line 65-col. 2, line 23).

One of ordinary skill would have found it obvious at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of *Evans* with the teachings of *Ballantyne* with the motivation of storing medical records in personal digital assistants (*Evans*: col. 1, lines 5-10).

One of ordinary skill would have found it obvious at the time of the invention to combined the teachings of *Lavin* with the combined teachings of *Ballantyne* and *Evans* with the motivation of providing a convenient means of storing and converting data (*Lavin*: col. 1, line 65-col. 2, line 1).

(B) As per claim 23, *Ballantyne* discloses the system of claim 22, further comprising an information transmission device integral with said personal assistant (*Ballantyne*: abstract; col. 1, line 1-col. 2, line 63; Fig. 1-12B).

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(C) As per claim 25, *Ballantyne* discloses the system of claim 23, wherein the information transmission device is a magnetic strip reader (*Ballantyne*: abstract; col. 1, line 1-col. 2, line 63; col. 11, lines 40-47; Fig. 1-12B).

(D) As per claim 26, *Ballantyne* discloses the system of claim 23, wherein the information transmission device is an infra-red beam (*Ballantyne*: abstract; col. 1, line 1-col. 2, line 63; Fig. 1-12B).

(E) As per claim 29, *Ballantyne* discloses the system of claim 22, further comprising a connection to an external computer (*Ballantyne*: abstract; col. 1, line 1-col. 2, line 63; Fig. 1-12B).

(F) As per claim 30, *Ballantyne* discloses a method of automatically associating information with an individual identified by an identifier, said method comprising:

- (1) storing said information in a personal assistant (*Ballantyne*: abstract; col. 1, line 1-col. 2, line 63; Fig. 1-12B); and
- (2) recording a voice file associated with said information (*Ballantyne*: abstract; col. 1, line 1-col. 2, line 63; Fig. 1-12B).

Ballantyne, however, fails to expressly disclose a method of automatically associating information with an individual identified by an identifier, said method comprising:

- (3) reading an identifier and relating said identifier with said voice file; and
- (4) automatically associating the identifier with the information.

Nevertheless, this feature is old and well known in the art, as evidenced by *Evans*. In particular, *Evans* discloses a method of automatically associating information with an individual identified by an identifier, said method comprising:

- (3) reading an identifier and relating said identifier with said voice file (*Evans*: abstract; col. 1, line 1-col. 3, line 43; Fig. 1-24); and
- (4) automatically associating the identifier with the information (*Evans*: abstract; col. 1, line 1-col. 3, line 43; Fig. 1-24).

One of ordinary skill would have found it obvious at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of *Evans* with the teachings of *Ballantyne* with the motivation of storing medical records in personal digital assistants (*Evans*: col. 1, lines 5-10).

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(G) As per claim 35, *Ballantyne* discloses the method of claim 30, further comprising the step of transferring the information to a computer (*Ballantyne*: abstract; col. 1, line 1-col. 2, line 63; Fig. 1-12B).

(H) Claims 38-39 substantially repeat the same limitations as those of claims 22-23 and therefore, are rejected for the same reasons given for that claim and incorporated herein.

(I) As per claim 40, *Ballantyne* discloses the software program of claim 38, wherein the electronic physician data module associates a patient record with a patient (*Ballantyne*: abstract; col. 1, line 1-col. 2, line 63; Fig. 1-12B).

(J) As per claim 41, *Ballantyne* discloses the software program of claim 40, wherein said association occurs via data gathered by an information transmission device (*Ballantyne*: abstract; col. 1, line 1-col. 2, line 63; Fig. 1-12B).

4. Claims 24, 27-28, 31-34, and 36-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Ballantyne*, in view of *Evans*, as applied to claim 22 above, and further in view of *Schultz et al.* (5,679,943; hereinafter *Schultz*).

(A) As per claim 24, *Ballantyne* fails to expressly disclose the system of claim 23, wherein the information transmission device is a laser configured to read bar codes.

Nevertheless, these features are old and well known in the art, as evidenced by *Schultz*. In particular, *Schultz* discloses the system of claim 23, wherein the information transmission device is a laser configured to read bar codes (*Schultz*: abstract; col. 6, line 15, col. 8, line 2; Fig. 1-74).

One of ordinary skill would have found it obvious at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of *Schultz* with the combined teachings of *Ballantyne*, *Evans*, and *Lavin* with the motivation of providing an improved hand-held terminal (*Schultz*: col. 2, lines 60-63).

(B) As per claim 27, *Ballantyne* fails to expressly disclose the system of claim 23, wherein the information transmission device is an alpha-numeric scanner.

Nevertheless, these features are old and well known in the art, as evidenced by *Schultz*. In particular, *Schultz* discloses the system of claim 23, wherein the information transmission device is an alpha-numeric scanner (*Schultz*: abstract; col. 6, line 15, col. 8, line 2; Fig. 1-74).

One of ordinary skill would have found it obvious at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of *Schultz* with the combined teachings of *Ballantyne*, *Evans*, and *Lavin* with the motivation of providing an improved hand-held terminal (*Schultz*: col. 2, lines 60-63).

(D) As per claim 28, *Ballantyne* fails to expressly disclose the system of claim 23, wherein the information transmission device is a radio frequency transceiver.

Nevertheless, these features are old and well known in the art, as evidenced by *Schultz*. In particular, *Schultz* discloses the system of claim 23, wherein the information transmission device is a radio frequency transceiver (*Schultz*: abstract; col. 2, lines 40-60; col. 6, line 15, col. 8, line 2; Fig. 1-74).

One of ordinary skill would have found it obvious at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of *Schultz* with the combined teachings of *Ballantyne*, *Evans*, and *Lavin* with the motivation of providing an improved hand-held terminal (*Schultz*: col. 2, lines 60-63).

(E) As per claim 31, *Ballantyne* discloses the method of claim 30, wherein the step of reading scans a code uniquely associated with the individual (*Ballantyne*: abstract; col. 1, line 1-col. 2, line 63; Fig. 1-12B).

Ballantyne, however, fails to expressly disclose the method of claim 30, wherein the step of reading scans a *bar* code [Emphasis added.].

Nevertheless, these features are old and well known in the art, as evidenced by *Schultz*. In particular, *Schultz* discloses the method of claim 30, wherein the step of reading scans a bar code (*Schultz*: abstract; col. 2, lines 40-60; col. 6, line 15, col. 8, line 2; Fig. 1-74).

One of ordinary skill would have found it obvious at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of *Schultz* with the combined teachings of *Ballantyne*, *Evans* and *Lavin* with the motivation of providing an improved hand-held terminal (*Schultz*: col. 2, lines 60-63).

(F) Claims 32-34 substantially repeat the same limitations of claim 31 and therefore, are rejected for the same reasons given for that claim and incorporated herein.

Moreover, Examiner notes that Applicant's duplication of bar codes (e.g., a second bar code associated with the information; scanning the second bar code, associating the information associated with the second bar code, etc.) has no patentable significance unless a new and unexpected result is produced. *In re Harza*, 274 F. 2d 669, 124 USPQ 378 (CCPA 1960).

(G) Claim 36 substantially repeats the same limitations as those of claim 31 and therefore, is rejected for the same reasons given for that claim and incorporated herein.

(H) Claim 37 substantially repeats the same limitations as those of claim 24 and therefore, is rejected for the same reasons given for that claim and incorporated herein.

Conclusion

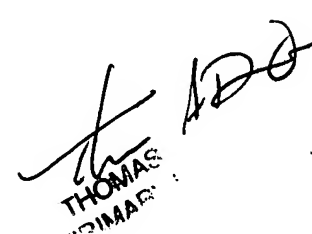
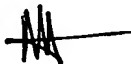
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mike Tomaszewski whose telephone number is (571)272-8117. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00 am - 3:30 pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Thomas can be reached on (571)272-6776. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MT



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